

Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the NID Hemphill Diversion Structure

The Nevada Irrigation District (NID) will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an environmental impact report for the Hemphill Diversion Structure Project. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

The project description, location, and the potential environmental effects are contained in the attached materials. A copy of the Initial Study (is is not) attached but is available at: <https://nidwater.com/hemphill-diversion-facility/documents/>.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Proposed Project includes analysis of four potential alternatives including: 1) Riverbank Infiltration Gallery Alternative, 2) Fish Passage Alternative, 3) Pipeline Alternative, and 4) Abandonment of Hemphill Canal Alternative. The alternatives vary as far as construction attributes and areas of potential disturbance. All of these alternatives are designed to allow for fish passage beyond the Hemphill Diversion Structure on Auburn Ravine.

This project will require further CEQA environmental review in the form of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD:

The 30-day public review period for the Initial Study will begin on **September 3, 2020 and end on October 2, 2020** for any interested and concerned individuals and public agencies to submit written comments on the document. The Initial Study is available for review and download at the Nevada Irrigation District website at the following link: <https://nidwater.com/hemphill-diversion-facility/documents/>.

PUBLIC MEETING:

The Nevada Irrigation District will consider the certification of the EIR at a future Board of Directors meeting to be determined. An online public scoping meeting has been scheduled for **Monday, September 21, 2020 from 4:00 pm through 6:00 pm**. Because of current COVID-19 pandemic, the scoping meeting will be held online via Zoom. A brief presentation will begin at 4:00 pm, afterwards comments will be accepted until the meeting concludes at 6:00 pm. See <https://nidwater.com/hemphill-diversion-facility/documents/> for information on how to connect to the Zoom meeting.

Please send your response to Kris Stepanian at the address shown on the reverse page or via email at stepiank@nidwater.com.

Date: September 3, 2020

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